

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USNATO 03499 061552Z
ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 03499

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: NATO, US
SUBJECT: THE WASHINGTON SUMMIT: PREPARATIONS AT NATO

REF: STATE 087010

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1. WE NEED INSTRUCTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE REGARDING US PREPARATIONS AND AGENDA PROPOSALS FOR THE WASHINGTON NATO SUMMIT. THE CLOCK KEEPS TICKING AND THE BUREAU-CRATIC WHEELS KEEP GRINDING HERE. AT YESTERDAY'S PERMREPS LUNCH, SYG LUNS SAID HE WOULD SOON BE CIRCULATING A PAPER ON PREPARATIONS, PUBLICITY AND AGENDA FOR THE SUMMIT, AND WE NOTE IN BONN 06111 THAT THE BONN GROUP HAS ALREADY PARCELLED OUT COMMUNIQUE DRAFTING RESPONSIBILITIES ON BERLIN ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE COMMUNIQUE PROCESS WILL FOLLOW THE STANDARD PATTERN. WE CAN EXPECT LOCAL MOVES ANY TIME NOW FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION TO ARRANGE SUMMIT AGENDA AND DISCUSS PREPARATIONS.

2. UNLESS WE RECEIVE PROMPT INSTRUCTIONS, WE SHALL FACE GROWING DIFFICULTY IN GUIDING THE SUMMIT PREPARATION PROCESS AND KEEPING IT ON THE TRACK ALONG LINES CONSISTENT WITH WASHINGTON DESIRES.

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PAGE 02 USNATO 03499 061552Z

3. BELGIAN PERMREP DID NOT, AS SEEMED LIKELY, TAKE THE OCCASION OF THE LUNCH TO RAISE ALLEGED BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON SUMMIT PREPARATIONS. IT WAS NOT NECESSARY THEREFORE TO DRAW ON THE HELPFUL ASSURANCES IN STATE 087010 TO EFFECT THAT DISCUSSION OF THE SUMMIT AGENDA, SCENARIO AND SUBSTANCE SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT NATO.

WE SHALL OF COURSE DO SO AS NECESSARY, BUT WE DO NEED
A US POSITION. BENNETT

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